



THE SPOTLIGHT

VOL. XXII NO. 7

MAY-JUNE 1963

ALEXANDER HAMILTON VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Honor Society Inducts

Eight students received much coveted membership in the Honor Society at a special induction ceremony on Friday, May 10. Anthony Alegre 6C, Peter Burzi 6A, and David Nockamovitch 6D were accepted as senior members. Francisco Flores 4B, Robert Kane 4G, Randy Lenna 4B, David Spina 4G, and Stephen Toscano 4F received junior membership. Mr. Wilner, Mr. Prener, Mrs. Eigerman, and Mr. Rubinstein participated in the installation of the new members. In his address to the Society, Mr. Prener emphasized the fact that colleges no longer judge applicants on the basis of scholarship alone but consider students in relation to character, personality, and extracurricular activities. Mr. Wilner made the point that membership in the Society must be deemed an honor. Lewis Dalessio, President, presided over the meeting and Albert Alvarez administered the oath to the new inductees.

Following the meeting, Mr. Gair, adviser to the Society, escorted thirty members on a trip to the American Museum of Natural History and the Hayden Planetarium. The program at the Planetarium centered around our 49th state, Alaska. Our boys learned many new facts and considered this excursion, time well spent.



Boys Win Honors

Ronald Arthur

Claudio Dallavalle won the school's first Pan American medal. He defeated 14 other boys in the tie-breaker quiz. Robert Zaber's essay was the school entry in the Attorney General for a Day Contest. Ronald Arthur's "The Moon" was the school entry in the High School Poetry Contest. The Merriam-Webster gold spelling medal was won by Tom Pattison, the silver medal by Steven Sheltor, and the bronze medal by James Wilkonski. Julius Levy represented the school in the annual Words That Live Speaking Contest. Declaiming President Kennedy's inaugural address, Julius competed with student speakers from four vocational high schools in the semi-finals. Angelo Auriemma, James Barrett, Melvin Clark, John Crawford, Genaro Rivera, Joseph Turkiewicz, and Mervin Velazquez recently passed the qualifying entrance examination for admission to the New York School of Printing.

Seniors Plan Day

The always popular tradition of Senior Day will be continued by the Senior Class on Wednesday, June 5th.

The annual festivities will begin with a party in the lunchroom from 9:45 until 11:00 A. M. The culmination of this joyful day will be a bus trip to the Polo Grounds where the much loved New York Mets will play the Milwaukee Braves.

A committee will be selected from the 175 seniors. The lucky boys will go to the dugout and accept an autographed ball from Mets Manager, Casey Stengel. The radio and television stations covering the event will be notified so that our attendance at the game can be announced. Unfortunately, plans for the purchase of colorful looking senior hats had to be canceled. Technician 1963, the senior classbook, will be distributed on or shortly after Senior Day.

Hamilton Joins The U.N.

A delegation of six students accompanied Mr. Stark to a meeting of the Model Economic and Social Council of High School Council for the United Nations on April 25th at the World Affairs Center. The event was a training session for a later meeting at Mills College, where the problems of the Economic Commission for Latin America was discussed. Our students appeared as observers representing Nigeria. Charles Sabella, Bruce Burchik, Robert Dempsey, Anthony De Crea, Henry Stanczak, and Vincent Antoniello attended.



Music Night May 31st

Several Hamilton boys will perform with students from Girls High and Boys High in a "Spring Music Festival" at Girls High School, Nostrand Ave. & Halsey St., on Friday evening May 31, at 8:00 P. M. The production will include songs from the musicals Porgy and Bess, Carousel, and West Side Story. Among the Hamilton participants are Joseph Cody, Abraham Holmes, Noah Brown, Gary Brown, Ernest Bellido, William Rivera, Robert Bell and Mr. Rosovsky. G.O. members can purchase tickets for \$1.75 or less from one of the aforementioned persons or at Girls High on May 31.



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THE EDITOR TO YOU

Now Hear This!

Being only human, we tend to put off unpleasant chores such as studying for Regents and final exams. We tend to escape the reality that these exams are only a month away. Ironically, we convince ourselves that it is too early to begin our reviewing. We assure ourselves that we can easily grasp a year's work in one week of studying. An answer to this false notion might be found in the words of Shakespeare: "This above all, to thine ownself be true!" Attempting to hand ourselves a "snow job" can only prove to be costly and foolish. frantic cramming a week before exams can easily turn us into nervous wrecks. What we need is a little more effort each day for the next month. With a well planned study schedule, even those of us who have been lax the entire year, can do well on the finals. Budget your time to allow daily reviewing of each subject; free your mind temporarily from thoughts of girls and driver's license; concentrate on what you read; do not worry!



Summer Jobs - Now

If you are just sitting around now and still expect to get a summer job, you are sadly mistaken. Now is the time to do your summer job hunting; yesterday would have been even better. Last year, one out of three teenagers who looked for summer jobs was able to get one. Experts claim that ingenuity, persistence, imagination, and aggressiveness are job seekers greatest attributes.

Ask everyone you know about summer job prospects. Begin with family, your friends, and friends of friends. Widen your search to cover all neighborhood stores. If an employer knows you, your chances are better. Remember attitude, dress, and personality are very important. If you are under 16, you may be able to earn money by baby sitting or doing chores in your own neighborhood. Make your summer profitable by gaining a skill such as typing that will serve you in the future. Remember there is no time like the present.

The Youth Placement Service of the New York State Employment Service, 247 West 54th Street, Manhattan, offers the following suggestions.

Park, Playground and Beach Helpers. Boys must be 16 and over and physically able. Wages: \$12 a day.

Farm Cadet Program for High School Boys For jobs on New York State farms boys must be 15½ or older, strong, healthy, and weigh at least 140 pounds. Wages: \$15 a week plus room and board.

Ice Cream Beach Vendors.

Boys 14 and over to sell ice cream on Brooklyn and Rockaway beaches. Wages: 15% to 17% of commission. Average earnings are \$50 a week.

Delivery and Telegraph Messengers.

Limited demand for boys 16 and over. Wages: \$1.15 an hour.

Supermarket Stock and Delivery Boys.

Must be 17 or over. Wages: \$1 to \$1.25 an hour.



HIGH MARKS

Letters to the Editor

INTEGRATION

Sir: The other day I went looking for a job and was asked to send my prospective employer a transcript of my school record. Until that moment, I had never really realized how important school marks were. How I wish I had received higher marks in school! I know that a better record would have made some difference in my starting salary. I hope this note will impress lower term boys with the importance of high marks.

Yours truly,
Frank Blue

WINNING TEAM

Sir: During my three years at Hamilton, I do not remember one winning team. Our teams seemed to draw no interest. Now, all of a sudden, we have a first place team. Our baseball team is expected to win in its division. It will be the first winning team since I started at this school. A team needs support and the knowledge that everyone is cheering them on to victory. Let's hope our winning nine goes all the way this year!

Leonard Amato

SPOTLIGHT FANS

Sir: I find the sports news and guidance column very interesting. Most of all, I enjoy reading "The Principal's Corner". This particular feature can be very informative for lower termers as well as seniors. More pupils should read the "Principal's Corner".

Sincerely yours,
Paul Mc Hugh

Sir: In the last three years, I have seen the Spotlight come to life with more news and better coverage. Reporters now roam the school in search of news. They interview workmen, teachers, and students. They go after the news as if they were getting paid for it. The Spotlight should come out more often.

Ronald Arthur

HAMILTON'S TEACHERS

Sir: From the first day, I walked through Hamilton's doors, the teachers have been especially nice to me. I believe this is due to the fact that I have cooperated with them and in return I have received knowledge. I'll always remember the teachers of Hamilton and I hope to meet more people like them.

Samuel Nieves

Sir: I am a strong believer in integration and see no need for the discrimination going on in the South. Why doesn't President Kennedy do more to stop those ruthless bombings of Negro homes and churches? I would like to see more action taken by the administration to end this crisis soon.

Paul Miles

Sir: Let Southern segregationists come to Hamilton and see integration in action. Let them see the place where people of all races, creeds, and colors get along and live together in peace and understanding.

Joseph Sima

A CLEAN NEIGHBORHOOD

Sir: I have seen many signs posted in the front yards of the houses near the school. The signs ask our students not to loiter in front of private homes and drop cigarette butts and rubbish near these properties. Are we cooperating with the neighborhood? I believe that something should be done by us concerning this matter.

Ruben Velazquez

A NEW HAMILTON

Sir: One disadvantage of graduating this June is that we seniors won't have the chance to enjoy the new facilities being installed. The other students will have the advantage of going to a school with modern equipment. For example, the new auditorium will have the acoustics that will make possible first rate performances. I know the students will have a ball.

Noel McMenamy

Sir: Hamilton has come up in the world. New electrical installations, fluorescent lighting, tile floors, intercom telephones, and a public address system are only a few of the changes. We rise like the phoenix (a mythical bird, who lives for 500 years or more, burns itself on a funeral pile, and rises again from the ashes for another long life.)

Sol Anthony

SHORT SUBJECTS

Sir: Fishing is my hobby. I would like to meet other students who enjoy fishing. Perhaps, we could start a fishing club.

Thomas Carney



Dear Dr. Salzman

Dear Dr. Salzman:

Although I am seventeen years old, I am still required to ask my mother's permission whenever I want to go out on a date. My mother usually turns me down. I want to know what I can do?

Sincerely,
B. B.

Dear B.B.:

Your question involves what we call the "culture conflict" of any generation with its own children. Parents often feel that their children are not sufficiently respectful of the customs and manners of older persons. Differences in values are greater than ever, today.

Parents who come to this country with old-fashioned European rules of conduct frequently are at odds with their offspring who seek to act like Americans. In any case, adolescents generally think they know more than their parents.

There is no one way to get what you want. You should try to avoid passionate defiance. Little understanding comes from conflict and anger. Patient repeated explanation is usually more effective. It is never easy to overcome the habits of a lifetime but most of us eventually bend with the times. Parents are often worn down and in the end youngsters get what they want--often to their own regret.

AT THE MOVIES

"55 Days at Peking" is an extravagant technicolor film that tells the story of the eleven foreign legations in the Chinese Capital during the Boxer Rebellion of 1900. The movie was made on location near Madrid in one of the largest sets ever constructed.

In 1899, the Empress of China decided that the white interests in her land were responsible for China's woes. She ordered the Boxers to kill all the foreigners. Unafraid of bullets, sword, or death, they attacked the foreign compound again and again. The brave group inside fought desperately for their lives. The seige lasted for 55 days. Charlton Heston, Ava Gardner, and David Niven give skillful performances and suitable dramatic music is provided by Dimitri Tiomkin. Detailed attention to historical background makes the film an educational experience. Two Spotlight reporters were privileged to see artist, Dong Kingman, who did 35 paintings for the film's main titles.



--Pat De Sibio

QUESTION: If you could be in charge of Hamilton, what would you do?

Tyrone Soklaski 8C-



I would try to make the men who are renovating the building work a little harder and faster. By doing this, I would hope to have everything return to normal as soon as possible.

Roger Yulfo 4B-

I would allow all the students to go outside for lunch.

Thomas Panepinto 4B-

I would establish a smoking lounge that the boys could use during the lunch periods.

Victor De Luca 4B-

I would make Alexander Hamilton a co-ed high school.

John Jacyno 6G-

I would make changes in the lunch rooms. Students should be given a little more freedom. The atmosphere is more like that of a reform school than that of a high school.

Henry Andrade 8B-



I would like to see more mathematics given to the boys enrolled in the vocational courses.

SLAVES

Nuclear missiles, atomic bombs,
A cold war rages with infrequent calms.
Geneva talks that always fail
Yes indeed! Tis a sorry tale.

Atomic testing, the armament race,
Even espionage involving space!
Electronic brains and fail-safe gadgets,
Just two of many World War hazards.

A nuclear holocaust may destroy me,
Along with you, Khrushchev, and Kennedy.
World War III threatens all nations;
We are slaves of our own creations.

- Chris Castoro

ANSWER TO WORD GAME

***** / ***** / *** / ***

MCKINGBIRD

MEET THE FACULTY

Meet the Winner

"The English are snobs until they get to know you better", is the opinion of Mr. Kaynis, one of Hamilton's newest teachers. Mr. Kaynis clarified his opinion by stating that the English are also the warmest people on earth once they get to know you. Besides visiting England, Mr. Kaynis also went to France, where he admired the fine foods and the beautiful buildings. Leaving France, Mr. Kaynis journeyed to Israel, where he worked on a kibbutz (co-op farm) for four months. In that country, he found that workers received no pay but their share of the crops instead. They also receive an allowance of \$1.25 a month for the purchase of small luxury items. After Israel, Mr. Kaynis went to Puerto Rico. He found that wages and prices are as high in Puerto Rico as in the States.

Mr. Kaynis was a student at Horace Mann High School in the Bronx. Since Mann is an all boys school too, Mr. Kaynis understands the lot of the Hamiltonian. After high school, Mr. Kaynis went to City College where he majored in Spanish language and European history. He enjoys the latter because it offers a great diversity of customs. After earning his B.A. degree, Mr. Kaynis worked for the N. Y. Department of Welfare and later taught Spanish at Samuel Gompers Vocational High School.

Reading is high among Mr. Kaynis' hobbies. He enjoys the works of Jules Verne and rates highly, Thomas Hardy's Jude the Obscure. A frequent visitor to exhibits, Mr. Kaynis did not see "Mona Lisa", feeling that he might have been disappointed in a painting that has been copied so much.

Mr. Kaynis thinks that the typical Hamilton boy is both serious and capable of a wonderful sense of humor. He hopes to remain at Hamilton where he can continue to do the kind of work he prefers.

- Albert Alvarez

The Gilbert School

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ACADEMIC & GENERAL COURSES

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McHugh
Meets
Press



BEST ATHLETE

Track and field star Paul McHugh came up with his best performance in the broad jump when he leaped 23 feet 8½ inches at the fourth annual New Utrecht schoolboy track and field meet in Downing Stadium, Randalls Island. This bettered his record breaking jump of 23-5½ made two weeks earlier at the Queens-Iona Relays, which by the way, was the only record set at that event.

At a special press conference for Spotlight reporters, Paul explained that his athletic career was launched in the eighth grade at Nathan Hale Junior High, when a gym teacher noticed his ability. As a result of his outstanding athletic record, Paul has been offered a scholarship to Maryland State, where former Hamilton track star, Robert Brown is enrolled. However, Paul has declined the offer and will devote his time to ministry. This amazing young man still finds time for movies, an occasional party, and activities with the Pioneers and the Gowanus Center.

"It feels good to win something for Hamilton", was Paul's reply to a question concerning his reaction to acclaim. The modest trophy winner attributes much of his success to Coach Barad. Paul's own favorite athlete is Ulysses Williams, 440 Olympic star. Paul considers Mike Wallace, Orlando Martinez, and Ed Maughn great assets to the team he must leave in June. Reporters were impressed by the poise and clarity of Paul's answers. He bears the hallmarks of a gentleman and a star.

THE WORD GAME

C N

CLUES: 1. Bird of the South United States.
2. Imitates the notes of other birds.

Robert De Clara

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS



Baseball Nine

Division Champs

Knocking off 8 runs in the first inning, Hamilton scored its second victory over Eli Whitney 9-6, on May 16 to become champions of the League's baseball Division 4. Our team has only to defeat the winner of Division 3 in order to qualify for the borough title on Wednesday, May 29. The winner of that crucial game would be eligible for the city championship games in June. Our winning streak was evident early this year, when we defeated Automotive on April 26 with a 9-4 trouncing. Williams, Leitstein, and Gonzalez each hit a run in the first inning of that game. Automotive got a repeat performance May 13, when they were blanked 8-0 by the able pitching of Caeser Melendez. Melendez helped his own game with a triple and single, good for two runs. Leitstein hit a single, driving in two more runs. In the April 29th 5-0 shut-out against Whitney, Gonzalez and Alexander each made two runs. Whitney got only three hits from Melendez. Early in May, we edged Westinghouse 5-4 and hairlined Eastern District 3-1. Mr. Murtha still spots mistakes but thinks we could be the school to take the championship. In any case, this season has been great.



Tennis

Team Nets Nil

The tennis team played their very best in a losing battle against tough James Madison High in the last match of the season on May 13. Jim Kasprzak and Joe Sime made a fine showing in the doubles, winning one game and tying others. Unfortunately, the team lost the services of Andy Badamo and Henry Andrade for various reasons. New players Thomas Butler and Ed Hunter show promise of better performances next year. Playing against such experienced teams as Westinghouse, Sheepshead Bay, Lafayette, New Utrecht, Fort Hamilton, and Grady, our racquettes made every effort to turn the tide in their favor but with little success. With a larger and more experienced team, Coach Pulera hopes for better results next year.

--Ray Capestan

McHugh Breaks Record

Track Team Scores Again

Hamilton's track team once again proved its power by winning the distance medley at the second annual High School of Commerce Relay Carnival in April. The celebrated quartet of Paul McHugh, Ed Maughn, Mike Wallace and Orlando Martinez completed the distance in 10:53.8, smashing last year's winning record of 11:07 made by Bronx High School of Science.

At the fourth annual New Utrecht schoolboy meet, Martinez won the mile run in 4:30.4 and the team placed 4th in the meet of 32 schools. McHugh took 2nd place in the 100 yd. dash but this was overshadowed by his record breaking broad jump. (See Page 5)

Our tracksters were not evenly matched at this year's Penn Relays but still placed 5th in the one miler.

Hamilton outclassed Jefferson 53-46 in their May encounter. Our boys took first place in every event but the shot-put. Maughn, Wallace, McHugh, Martinez, and Elbert Jones won their individual heats. Welch, Miller, Williams, and Maughn won the 880, Jones, Irby, Jackson, and Marshall the mile, McHugh the broad jump, Wallace the hop, skip, and jump (with 39'), and Wilson the high jump (with 5'6"). On lucky May 13, Hamilton overpowered Bushwick 71-28, taking first place in every event.

Blackballers Win Games

The handball team under the guidance of Mr. Cotler concluded an only fair season against schools in Division II A on May 24. Brooklyn Tech, George Wingate, Bushwick, Boys High, and East New York were not easy to conquer but our handballers bounced in 3 wins. Willie Wilson, the number one singles of the squad, managed 6 out of 9 victories over some of the opposition's best players. He registered such classy scores as 21-6 against Tech, 21-9 over Boys, 21-6 against East New York, and a 21-0 shutout of Bushwick. Ronald Johnson, the number two singles, prevailed over some of his opponents too. Unfortunately, the Scarlet and Gray doubles were not as strong. Other members are Bobby Goins, Ray Westover, Joe Vignapiano, Walter Smalls, and Ken Taylor.

G.O. ELECTIONS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Boys,

In a very short time you will be participating in our annual student self government elections. Officers of the G.O., the self government organization at Hamilton, will be chosen by ballot. Those elected will hold office for the school year beginning September, 1963.

Ordinarily, we would hold an assembly during which the school could see and hear the candidates for the different offices. However, this year, since we do not have an auditorium, we will meet our candidates during lunch periods in the cafeteria and try to form judgments. Listen to the candidates, evaluate their qualifications and records and then make up your mind before you vote.

Think through the whole matter of student self-government, the G.O., and these elections. This process of thinking will help you to form your opinions and to make your choices in voting. Remember that this entire process is part of the way we live. Don't take it for granted; don't ignore it. Regard the elections seriously; consider your actions conscientiously; vote carefully.

Sincerely yours,
Abraham Wilner



Mr. W. Rothman-G.O. Adviser

The G.O.: What is it?

1. To encourage the development of student citizenship by creating opportunities for students and faculty to work together in the common interests of our school.
2. To make recommendations to the Principal and faculty on matters that concern the general welfare of the student body.
3. To provide and promote extra-curricular activities.

Some G. O. Accomplishments 1962-1963

1. A dance with Maxwell Vocational High School.
2. Two printed issues of The Spotlight.
3. A chess and checkers tournament.
4. Purchase of medals and trophies.
5. Financed an all new Soccer Team.
6. Financed a champion Baseball and Track Team.
7. Co-sponsored Junior Red Cross Fund Drive.

Dear Candidates,

Since I have been a G.O. officer, I have found it necessary to overcome many obstacles. I hope this letter will help you understand the problems which you face.

First, you must be able to get the different G. O. operations to function. You, as an officer, must be willing to sacrifice time to organize things. You must know how to use the facilities at your disposal, such as school publications, prefect bulletin boards, mimeographed memos and the actual Council meetings. Publicity is as important to the G. O. as it is to industry.

I should like to remind all students to vote for the persons who are able to work for a better G. O. These elections should never become popularity contests. I would like to extend to the candidates my best wishes. To those who are elected, I leave this thought. You represent all people in your school and should live up to that goal.



Sincerely,

Al Alvarez

Al Alvarez
G.O. Secretary

G.O. ELECTIONS



*** Mr. Astronaut ***

By Nunzio Verdi

We prayed for you Mr. Astronaut,
Thru your historic flight thru space,
We thank God for giving you
His encouragement and grace.

You've blazed a trail of glory
For Americans everywhere.
By your courage and your fortitude,
In your space ship way up there.

G.O. Officers Nominated

THE SCARLET

THE GRAY

FOR PRESIDENT

Joseph Skarulis



I definitely know how to perform the duties of G. O. President because I have participated in the G. O. as class representative. I am also a member of the Honor Society. In the latter organization, I learned much about the procedures involved in running a large group. I know that many of you want to see some changes in the school and in the G. O. I will do my best to make these changes possible.

Joseph Lombardi

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Frank Bartoletti



If I am elected President of the G. O., I will do my best to keep all my promises. I will try to get more activities such as dances, sports, and a trip for seniors. I will welcome suggestions from students which might help the school. As a member of the Honor Society, I have learned how to run an organization such as the G. O. In the past two years, I have heard many promises. Few of these were kept. I will keep my promises.

In previous terms, I have succeeded in attaining a high scholastic average. My favorite subjects are math and science. I have contributed my services as lunch room marshal and late squad captain. As secretary of the Honor Society, I also served on the CARE Fund Drive Committee. I have accepted the responsibility of running for Vice-President because I know I am capable of doing the job.

I am a member of the Honor Society, Traffic Squad, Junior Red Cross, Brownsville Juvenile Club and the Catholic Gents. I think this should give you an idea of my activities. I think that the primary function of the G. O. is to help students, clubs, and teams. Without the G. O., we would have to go without many things. Most of all, I am willing to serve without expecting rewards of any kind.

FOR SECRETARY

Vincent Antoniello



A black and white portrait of a man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie. The image is grainy and appears to be a photocopy of a photograph.

Warren Szczepiorski

I have been for the last two years, a member of the Honor Society and since my freshman year, a member of the Lab Squad. I believe that only a very efficient person should hold the position of G. O. secretary. I consider myself worthy. I advocate physical fitness and have been a student of judo for three years. I am interested in psychology and automotives. My favorite proverb is "There are no strangers in this world, only people I have not yet met." I have a clean record and am in good standing with the faculty. If elected, I will do my job well and I will not forget any special wants of the students.

My opponent will probably make many promises which really cannot possibly be carried out. These are made for the sole purpose of getting your votes as in past elections. I believe in giving it to you straight. I don't promise you a swimming pool or an end to spiced ham in the lunch room. I do promise to analyze all situations thoroughly and do my best to improve them. G.O. meetings are at present unpublicized. I plan to institute a periodic calendar which would inform you of all G.O. plans and decisions. I have been a G.O. class representative and I am also a proud member of the Honor Society. I am also proud to play on our new soccer team. My only hope is that those of you who are familiar with this team's record won't hold it against me when you vote.